

To the Members of the California Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2055 without my signature.

Agriculture is one of the most important economic sectors, accounting for over \$27 billion in California's economy. As of 2003, 48 local jurisdictions had specifically addressed agriculture in their general plans. This bill would impose new state requirements on all local governments' general plans.

This bill adds no new protections for agricultural land. In fact, while it renames the Open Space Element to the Agricultural and Open Space Element, it does not require agricultural land to be considered in that element.

While I believe that land planning should be done at the local level, it is imperative that the state have a comprehensive vision for land use in California. I have begun work with my Cabinet to develop strategies to ensure that Californians have enough housing and better roads, while at the same time maintaining the natural splendor of our open spaces and the rich economic value of our agricultural lands.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger